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SENATE RESOLUTION 74  
By Dixon

A RESOLUTION To honor Tom Southard for his laudable service  
to St. Mary's Episcopal School.

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have wholeheartedly given of themselves in the service of our young people, dedicating their lives and careers to the education of the youth of this State; and

WHEREAS, Tom Southard is one such estimable citizen who is most deserving of the praise and commendation of this legislative body; and

WHEREAS, He has meritoriously served the students and teachers of St. Mary's Episcopal School, in Memphis, as headmaster for thirteen years and will soon be leaving St. Mary's to serve as President of Shady Side Academy, a private school near Pittsburgh; and

WHEREAS, During his illustrious tenure at St. Mary's Episcopal School, Mr. Southard has distinguished himself as the very epitome of the conscientious and committed educator; he has made a positive difference in the lives of countless young people; and

WHEREAS, A talented and hard-working administrator, Tom Southard has tirelessly led his school to unparalleled levels of excellence; under his leadership, St. Mary's Episcopal

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School opened the five million dollar Buckman Performing and Fine Arts Center and experienced an increase in student enrollment by two hundred students, a doubling of its minority student enrollment, and a six million dollar endowment increase; and

WHEREAS, He has served St. Mary's Episcopal School with the utmost dedication, compassion, and acumen; his many innovative ideas and programs, steadfast commitment to the principles of quality education, devotion to his students, and respect for his teachers, all combine to make him a superb administrator and human being; he will be sorely missed by the faculty, staff, and students of St. Mary's; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Southard exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his estimable career, Tom Southard has demonstrated an extraordinary ability to motivate his students to reach their potential, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the entire St. Mary's Episcopal School family; and

WHEREAS, A source of wisdom, encouragement, and understanding, he is an inspiration to his teachers and students, and should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor Tom Southard for his immeasurable service to St. Mary's Episcopal School, commend him on his commitment to excellence in education, salute his exemplary administrative career, and extend to him our gratitude for his thirteen years of exceptional service to the young people of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we congratulate Mr. Southard on his new marriage to Donna Child and offer our heartfelt best wishes for his continued success and happiness at Shady Side Academy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.